



NEWS RELEASE



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA MAY 1 WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST AND HAY STOCKS

LINCOLN, Neb., May 12, 2003 -- Based on May 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2003 **winter wheat** crop is forecast at 62.7 million bushels, up 29 percent from last year's crop, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Average yield is forecast at 38 bushels per acre, up 6 bushels from last year's yield and virtually the same as the ten year average.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.65 million acres, up 9 percent from last year. This would be 94 percent of the planted acres, up from last year's 92 percent and the ten-year average of 93 percent. As of May 4, topsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly adequate in the major wheat growing areas. Disease and insect pressure to date has been light.

May 1 **hay stocks** of 900,000 tons is down 380,000 tons from last year and is the second lowest in the state since 1957.

Wheat: Planted, Harvested, Yield, and Production by Agricultural Districts, Nebraska, 2002-2003¹

District	Planted Acres ²		Harvested For Grain		Yield		Production	
	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003	2002	2003
	<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>1,000 Acres</i>		<i>Bushels</i>		<i>1,000 Bushels</i>	
Northwest	730.0	770.0	653.2	710.0	25.9	34.6	16,950.5	24,563.0
North	8.7	10.0	6.4	8.5	33.5	37.0	214.5	315.0
Northeast	2.3	4.0	1.2	3.5	34.3	42.0	41.2	147.0
Central	22.0	27.0	19.5	24.0	39.9	43.0	777.8	1,032.0
East	21.0	22.0	20.7	21.0	48.3	42.0	1,000.8	882.0
Southwest	540.0	569.0	503.6	545.0	32.2	39.0	16,232.4	21,255.0
South	185.0	188.0	181.2	183.0	38.5	42.0	6,970.4	7,686.0
Southeast	141.0	160.0	134.2	155.0	48.1	44.0	6,452.4	6,820.0
Nebraska	1,650.0	1,750.0	1,520.0	1,650.0	32.0	38.0	48,640.0	62,700.0

¹ Preliminary district estimates 2003. ²Planted acres are for all purposes.

Source: USDA NASS

Access the National publication for this release at:

<http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2003/crop0503.pdf>